

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 303168
ORIGIN ARA-07

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O 142226Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 303168

LIMDIS, FROM NADEAU TO BELL.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PN

SUBJECT:ARA/PAN ACTIVITIES

1. MEDIA COVERAGE. THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE INTEREST IN THIS ROUND. A UP WIRE STORY HAS RESULTED IN A FEW RADIO NEWS SPOTS. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED TODAY OR YESTERDAY AT THE NOON BRIEFING.

2. AMBASSADOR BUNKER'S VISIT TO VENEZUELA. CABLE FROM AMBASSADOR VAKY ASKS WHAT TIMEFRAME DO WE HAVE IN MIND FOR BRIEFING. UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE SOME OBJECTION, INTEND TO RESPOND ALONG THE LINES THAT OUR PREFERENCE IS TO HAVE VISIT AFTER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS ABLE TO FOCUS ON THE TREATY ISSUES AND THEREFORE WE CANNOT ESTABLISH EVEN TENTATIVE DATES AT THIS TIME.

3. TRANSITION PAPER. PANAMA PAPER WAS DELIVERED TO TRANSITION TEAM YESTERDAY.

4. MEAT. AGREEMENT ON THE FIVE MILLION POUND LEVEL WILL BE IN THE FORM OF AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES. DEPARTMENT SENDING ITS NOTE TO THE PANAMANIAN EMBASSY TODAY.

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5. MARIJUANA BOAT DON EMILIO. U.S. AGENCIES HAVE WAIVED

PENDING CHARGES AND FEES TOTALLING DOLS 35,000. ARA/PAN SENT NOTE YESTERDAY MAKING VESSEL AVAILABLE TO GOP AND REQUESTED THEIR COMMITMENT TO MOVE BOAT FROM COAST GUARD DOCK TODAY. WHEN THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED, WE WILL CABLE EMBASSY BACKGROUND AND PROPOSED NOTE TO BE SENT TO FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF US/GOP COOPERATION IN THIS NARCOTICS CASE.

6. SNIE. THE SCHEDULE FOR THE SNIE HAS BEEN MOVED BACK APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS TO ALLOW FOR A NUMBER OF CHANGES WHICH VARIOUS AGENCIES PROPOSED. A NEW DRAFT IS NOW IN PREPARATION AND WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A MEETING OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES DECEMBER 21. IT WOULD THEN BE REVIEWED BY THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD JANUARY 6.

7. DOD/ISA CALLED FOR OUR CONCURRENCE ON CINCSO REQUEST TO DEPLOY A MILITARY POLICE COMPANY IN THE CANAL ZONE FOR 60 DAY PERIOD STARTING 2/5/77. WE CONCURRED, BUT YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS WITH AMBASSADOR JORDEN HOW THIS PROPOSED DEPLOYMENT AS WELL AS SCHEDULED MILITARY EXERCISES WILL BE HANDLED IN TERMS OF MINIMIZING POSSIBILITY THAT THEY COULD BE MISREAD IN PANAMA AS A CHANGE IN U.S. NEGOTIATING POSTURE. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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